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**McNally et al.**

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(54) **SYSTEM, METHOD AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR DISCOVERY IN A DISTRIBUTED COMPUTING ENVIRONMENT**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **709/202; 709/223**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... 709/223, 224,  
709/244, 105, 239, 240, 313, 317, 318,  
320, 202; 370/252, 253, 254; 340/825.06,  
825.16; 714/47

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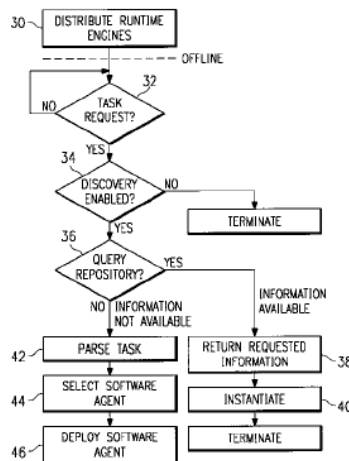
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A large distributed enterprise includes computing resources including a management server servicing a plurality of endpoint machines. A management infrastructure include a runtime engine is deployed on given endpoint machines. In response to a task deployment request at an administrative server, discovery agents may be launched into the computer network. When a software agent arrives at a given machine that supports the runtime engine, the agent is executed to determine whether the endpoint is a candidate for a particular task deployment.

**29 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets**



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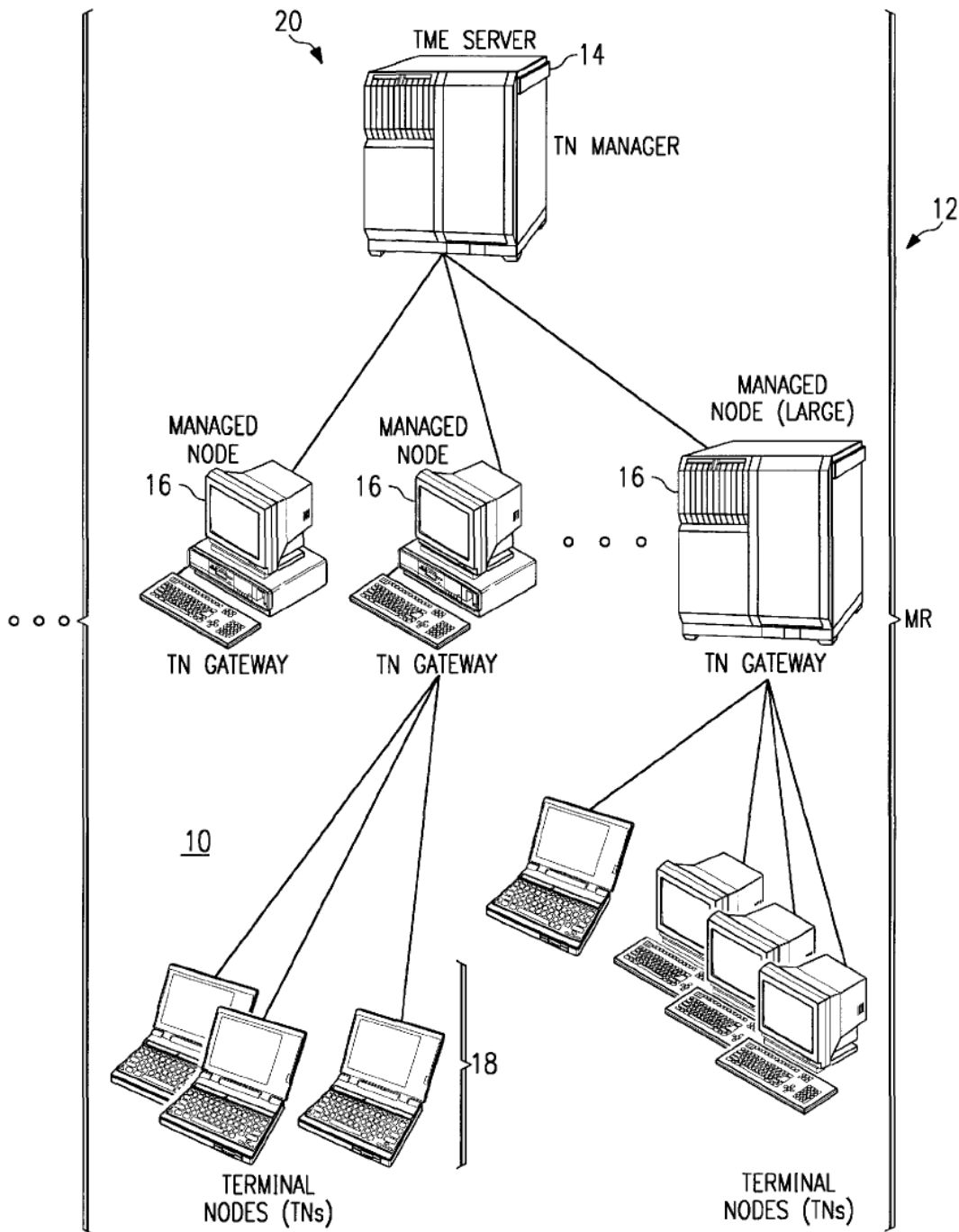


FIG. 1

FIG. 2

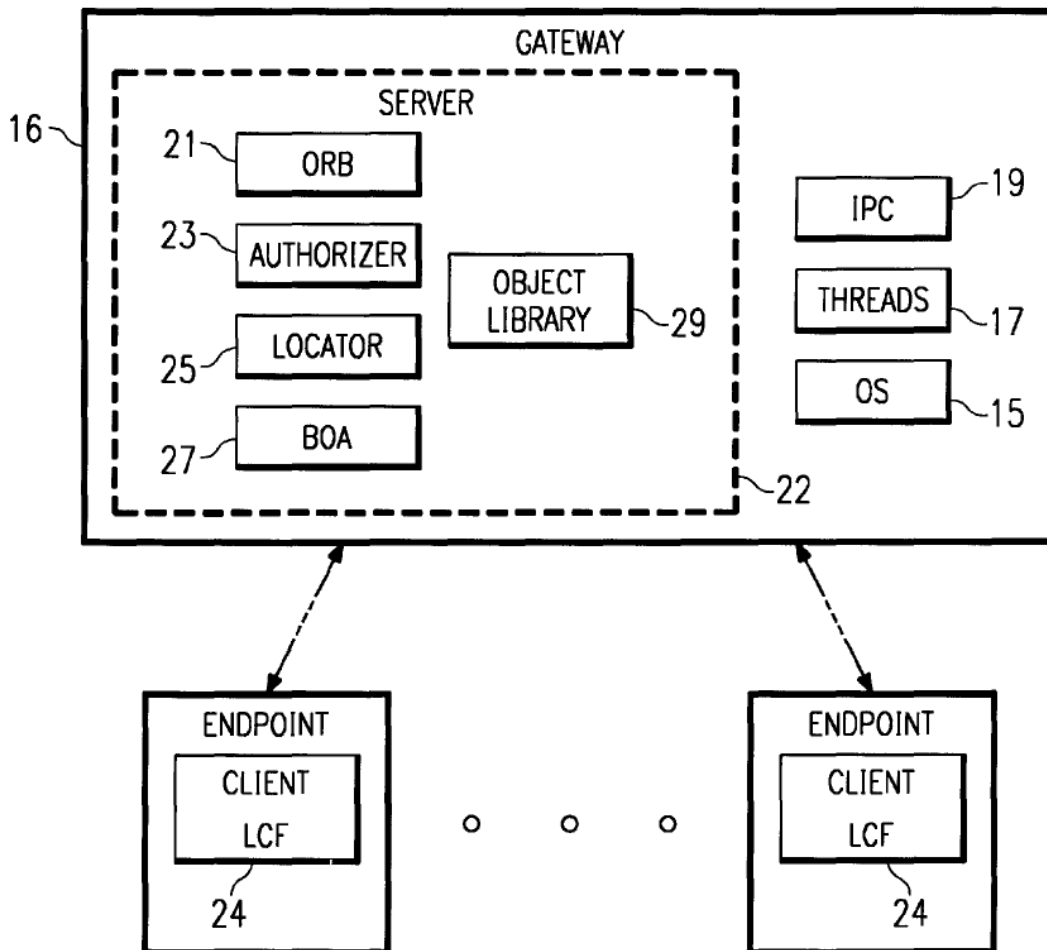


FIG. 2A

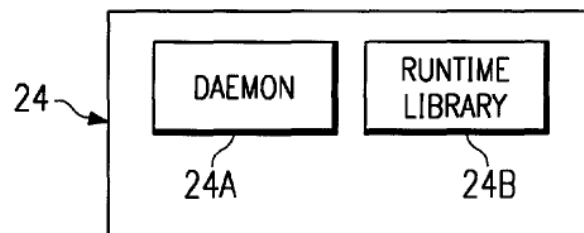


FIG. 3

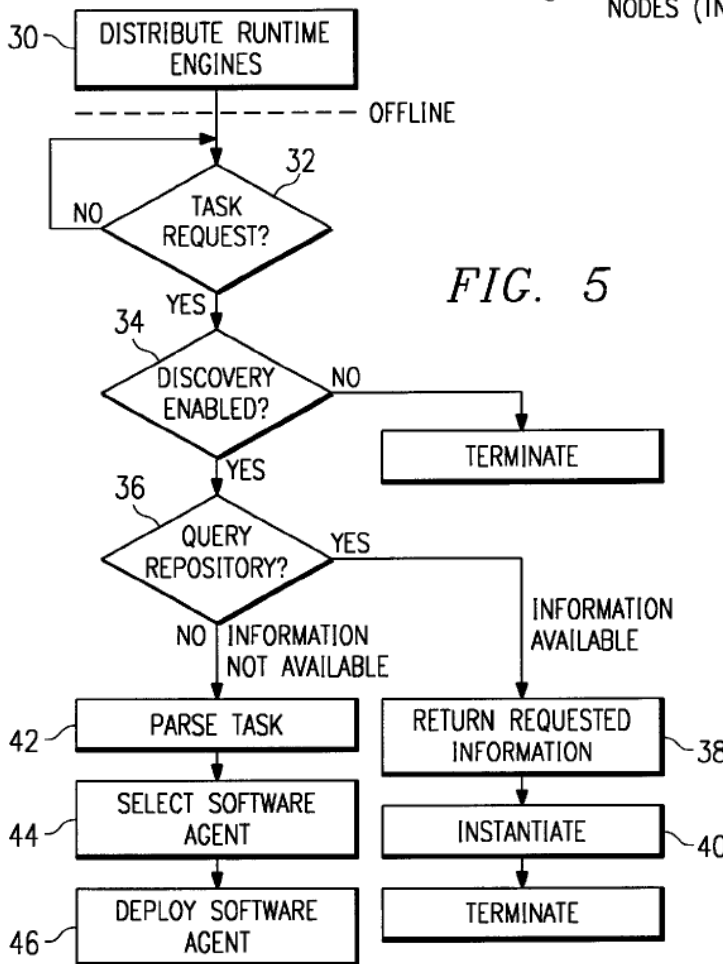
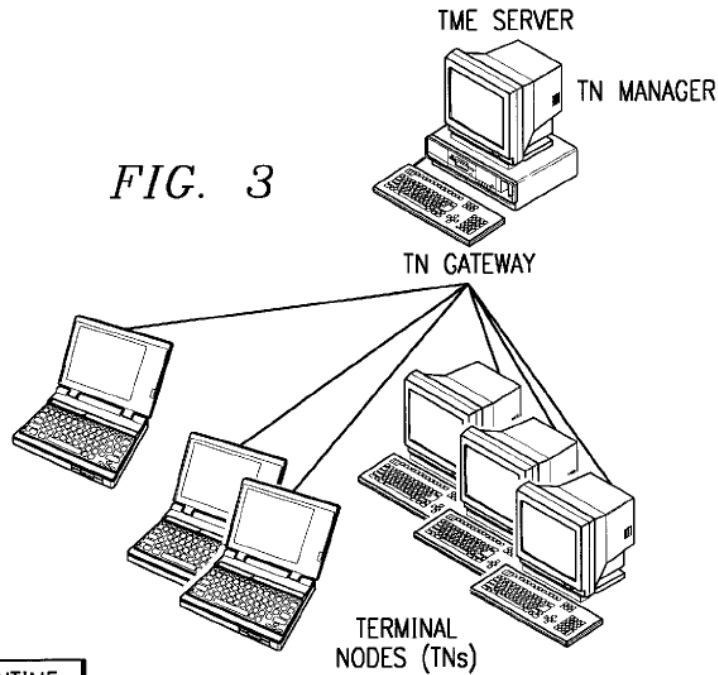


FIG. 5

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